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**GROUP 3600**

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Proposed draft claim amendment - U.S. Patent Serial No. 09/383,508:

1. (Amended) A reticle sorter coupled between a reticle storing system and one or more photolithography exposure tools, comprising:

one or more bays adapted for holding a cassette having slots for reticles;

a sorting system having at least one docking location and adapted for retrieving the reticles from and inserting the reticles into the slots in order to sort the reticles within the cassette;

means for moving each of the cassettes from the input port to one of the one or more bays; and

an inspection system, coupled between the one or more bays and an input port of the reticle sorter, for inspecting a characteristic of each reticle.

DRAFT  
PROPOSAL FOR  
DISCUSSION  
PURPOSES.